

MINUTES OF MEETING
NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
JULY 26, 2016

The North Cass Water Resource District met on July 26, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Wes Ecker, Chairman; Robert Thompson, Manager (by phone); Ken Loughheed, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Kathy Grueneich, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; Tasha Krueger, Steele County Water Resource District Office Manager; Mike Mitchell and Jerry Larsen, farm operators/property owners in Hunter Township.

Minutes

It was moved by Manager Loughheed and seconded by Manager Thompson to approve the minutes of the June 21 and June 28, 2016, meetings. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mike Mitchell – cleanout of Elm River in Section 9 of Hunter Township

Mike Mitchell attended the meeting to discuss the proper way to conduct a cleanout of the Elm River in Section 9 of Hunter Township. Mr. Mitchell counted 18 quarters that contribute to this watershed. Jerry Larsen's farmstead is affected and he believes the drainage issues are due to the Mary Ellen Melander property, in Section 16 of Hunter Township, not draining properly. Manager Thompson agreed, after viewing the site yesterday, that maintenance is needed through the Melander property. Mr. Mitchell said he would like to do the work himself. Sean Fredricks pointed out anything beyond maintenance requires a permit. Maintenance would consist of silt, tree and shrub removal. Any changes to slopes and/or contour modifications requires a permit. Mr. Fredricks suggested Mr. Mitchell take pictures before and after any work is completed and cautioned him that moving clay would be an issue. Manager Loughheed pointed out the spoil piles need to be leveled out and returned to a natural state as much as possible. Chairman Ecker advised Mr. Mitchell to make sure not to block anyone else's drainage. A snagging and clearing district could be pursued if the issue cannot be resolved, but they encouraged Mr. Mitchell to begin by working on the matter with Dennis Melander. Mike Opat suggested approaching Dennis Melander about doing maintenance in Section 16 first and then communicating with Jerry Larsen about the possibility of staking his property for cleanout.

Drain #23 Channel Improvements

Mike Opat reported that work is ongoing to obtain right of way for the Drain #23 Channel Improvements Project. The project could then be advertised for bids, with hopes of construction yet this fall. Magellan Midstream Partners, L.P. found data concerning the Magellan 6-inch high-pressured petroleum products pipeline. Based on their 1946 Field Survey Notes and the Tract File, the pipeline was constructed in 1946. Drain #23 was present and the same 1946 Field Notes show Drain #23 was 10 feet deep in 1946.

Approve Pledge of Assets – Alerus Financial (as per agreement of March 7, 1996)

It was moved by Manager Lougheed and seconded by Manager Thompson to approve the following Pledge of Assets:

Alerus Financial (as per agreement of March 7, 1996).

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2017 budget and 2016 maintenance levy assessments

It was moved by Manager Thompson and seconded by Manager Lougheed to approve the North Cass Water Resource District 2017 budget and 2016 maintenance levy assessments. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Drain #55 Channel Improvements

Mike Opat presented the *Final Cost Summary* for the Drain #55 Channel Improvements Project. The project came in under budget.

It was moved by Manager Lougheed and seconded by Manager Thompson to approve the *Final Change Order* for Northern States Excavating, Inc. for a contract decrease in the amount of \$12,056.62 regarding the Drain #55 Channel Improvements Project in Section 22 of Bell Township. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Bills

It was moved by Manager Thompson and seconded by Manager Lougheed to approve payment of Checks #4112 through #4118 and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Ecker, Thompson and Lougheed. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

State Water Commission Meetings

Mike Opat relayed the State Water Commission meetings are taking place this morning in Jamestown and this afternoon in West Fargo. Manager Brodshaug, Southeast Cass Water Resource District, and Manager Olson, Maple River Water Resource District, will be attending the meeting in West Fargo. Manager Thompson serves on the State Water Commission.

Assessment equalization

The Board briefly discussed equalizing assessments on legal drains.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

Wes Ecker
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer